

November 16, 1939

HOWARD JENSEN ESPREAD SORROW

Howard Jensen, 31, son of Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Jensen, prominent farm family of near Putney, was found dead about 12 o'clock Sunday night about a quarter of a mile north of his home by a group of neighbors who began a search for him when his wife became alarmed over his continued absence from the Jensen home. An unloaded shotgun was found near the body.

Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jensen had been in Aberdeen a short time Sunday evening intending to attend a show. But Howard complained of not feeling well and they returned home and retired. Shortly afterward he arose, kissed his wife and left the house, with the expressed intention of closing a granary door on the farm.

His father and mother, who had spent the evening at the Frank Jensen home, returned to their home, where Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jensen resided, shortly after ten o'clock and the latter was alarmed at her husband's continued absence. A searching party was organized and examined the premises without result and finally a general ring on a farm telephone line brought a great many neighbors to the scene. And when the young man could not be found near the Jensen farm buildings August Lier and Wm. Ulrich drove north along an infrequently used section line and when about a quarter of a mile from the Jensen home, the dog stopped a short distance ahead of them. When they arrived there they found the body of Howard, his head severely torn by the charge from a shot gun and the weapon lying nearby.

Coroner Notified

The county coroner was immediately notified, and after an examination of the details stated Mr. Jensen's death was due to self-destruction. But why no one seems to know. It is known that he was in excellent shape financially. He bought a quarter section of land last fall and paid cash for it. He had been happily married since May and his home life was ideal. He apparently had not a care in the world.

News Shocking

Naturally the news of his untimely death was extremely shocking to his friends and acquaintances who were legion. He was known as an exceptionally bright young man, completing his education in Groton schools as an honor student and in his spare hours found a great satisfaction in reading books of a scientific nature. He had been married since May. His wife was the former Miss Leona Nelson of Columbia.

The funeral was held from the Paetz-nick Funeral Home in Groton Tuesday afternoon. It was attended by a large concourse of sorrowing friends who came to pay their last respects to a young man liked by all. Rev. L. C. Benson conducted the ceremonies and the body was laid to rest in Groton cemetery.

He is survived by his parents, Mr. and Mrs. Chris. Jensen, and his wife. There are also two brothers and two sisters left to mourn his loss. One of the sisters, Mrs. Bob Neill, resides near St. Louis, Mo., and the other, Miss Olga, is a teacher in Huron schools. The brothers are Frank, of Putney, and Fred of Aberdeen. There are also a large number of other relatives.